



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Appl. No. : 09/529,717
Applicant : KIMURA et al.
Filed: : August 22, 2000
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Examiner : Rabon A. Sergent

Confirmation No.: 3228

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September 9, 2004

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
220 20th Street, South
Customer Window - Mail Stop AF
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AMENDMENT

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action of March 15, 2004, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

(1) Amendments to the claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

(2) Remarks begin on page 7 of this paper.